



MEDIA RELEASE & INVITATION TO ATTEND

Students and Teachers Learning that Mining Matters in the NWT

Sept 25, 2017 Yellowknife - North Slave teachers and students will learn about the importance of rocks, minerals, exploration, mining and careers through hands-on activities this week. A team of dynamic educators and role models from Mining Matters, the GNWT and TerraX Minerals will be delivering professional development workshops and a field trip for teachers, as well as an engaging four-day school program and field trip for students. As so many things we use in our daily lives are made up of minerals found in the Earth, these teacher workshops and student programs are designed to create both awareness and excitement for learning about the geology around us and rewarding career choices.

Participating schools will receive a reusable resource kit that includes useful teaching materials. The focus is to train interested teachers in the North Slave to deliver the Earth science curriculum with confidence. Laura Clinton, Executive Director of Mining Matters, explains, "We want to provide an informative professional development workshop and resources to inspire teachers to explore new ways to bring Earth science to life in the classroom and raise awareness of the vital roles that rocks and minerals play in our daily lives." The resource kits are tailored to address the science curriculum in Grades 4 and 7, and provide rock and mineral samples, equipment and lesson plans.

The workshops will include a presentation by well-known prospector and instructor, Jessica Bjorkman. Teachers will join Ms. Bjorkman as she leads an interpretive geological field trip on Saturday, September 30th to the Ranney Hill Trail. The trail was established by prospector Winslow Ranney, who with his brother and the Ranney Hill Gold Company helped uncover the mineral potential of the Yellowknife Gold Belt in the 1930s and 40s.

Joe Campbell, Chairman and CEO of TerraX Minerals said: "Rocks and minerals are the foundation of our modern society. Our partnership with ITI and Mining Matters will help youth understand the important role minerals and geology play in Northerners' and expose students to the many enjoyable and fulfilling employment opportunities provided by rocks in the NWT."

One lucky Grade 4 class at Range Lake North School will participate in a full four-day hands-on program including a field trip to the Ranney Hill Trail. Students in Mr. Mansfield's class will test the properties of minerals, learn about the mining cycle and environmental activities in mining, match career descriptions with education requirements, engage with industry professionals, make connections between minerals and everyday items, carve soapstone and craft pendants from polished amethyst and copper.

Teachers from all the school boards in the North Slave welcome to take part in this unique professional development opportunity. This Mining Matters NWT event is being funded via a public private partnership. The GNWT, through Industry Tourism and Investment, the Yellowknife School Board No. 1 and TerraX Minerals Inc. contribute approximately equal amounts.

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